IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 12. (Amended) <u>A method of controlling average particle size of microspheres</u> <u>containing an agent in a solvent extraction process, comprising</u>

adjusting a viscosity of an oil to a value that corresponds to a predetermined average particle size of microspheres to control said size of said microspheres;

adding said oil to a biodegradable poly(DL-lactide-co-glycolide) polymer – stabilizer agent solution emulsion;

centrifuging the emulsion;

and removing said microspheres of said predetermined average particle size.

Please cancel claims 13-15.